Claims

1. An electronic mail system for displaying and receiving data through a user-defined custom form, the mail system providing the means for transporting mail messages from one user of the mail system to another user of the mail system, the form having a plurality of fields, each field having an associated description and behavior, which comprises:

a form data structure containing the description of the fields and containing a form control procedure to control the behavior of the fields;

means for displaying a plurality of the fields on a display terminal;

means for receiving input data from a user through a field as displayed on the terminal;

a transaction event processor that in response to the input of data from a user calls the form control procedure to control the behavior of a plurality of fields;

means for packing the input data into a mail message; and

means for transporting the mail message to a designated user of the mail system.

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